

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

STENTS WITH TEMPORARY RETAINING BANDS

A self-expanding stent is formed of a stent framework and retaining segments disposed about the framework. The retaining segments hold the stent in a partially or fully contracted state in a bodily vessel. The retaining segments are constructed to fail after a predetermined time or upon the application of a predetermined force. Upon failure of the segments, the stent expands in the bodily vessel.